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**AUG - 3 2004**

**Unofficial**

Dear Examiner Corrielus:

Thank you for agreeing to speak with us on Aug 3<sup>rd</sup> 2004 at 8 AM (EST).

The reason for us contacting you is to re-establish Allowability of claim 3.

As you may recall, you had allowed claim 3 in the Final Office Action but since had reversed your decision.

Reading your comments on claim 3, we believe we understand your reasoning for initially allowing this claim. Therefore, we intend to clarify the language in claim 3 which we believe formed the basis for your allowance.

Normally, we would not ask to discuss the case at this time, but we believe that it is appropriate at this time since we had amended claim 3 according to your advice to place this application in condition for allowance and indeed we had expected to receive a Notice of Allowance in this case.

In any case, we thank you for both your consideration and time and attach a proposed clarification of claim 3 in advance of our discussion

Much regards,

I. Marc Asperas

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Claim 3 (previously presented): A data base for storing  
persistent data corresponding to configuration data that is  
complete for configuring a terminal, comprising:

a buffer into which is written persistent data to be

5 permanently stored;

a permanent memory connected to the buffer, the permanent  
memory having at least two storage areas, into which the  
persistent data is alternately written, each storage area  
[being structured to store a complete permanent configuration

10 for] storing the configuration data that is complete for  
configuration of at least one of:

(a) functions of the terminal

(b) characteristics of the terminal and,

15 (c) cards of the terminal, at least one of the  
permanent configuration stored having a complete  
configuration available and being selected for  
hardware implementation;

wherein the configuration data that is complete for  
configuration is alternately written into the storage areas  
20 by writing the complete configuration data into one of the  
storage areas and thereafter a later version of the  
configuration data is stored in the other storage area such  
that if the later version is lost during loading, the  
persistent data that is complete for configuration stored in  
25 the one of the storage areas continues to exist and is  
recoverable;

and

wherein the data base further comprises a control  
mechanism with a first application process for management of  
30 a first memory controls writing of the data to be  
persistently stored into the buffer, the data being generated  
or modified by the first application process alone or also by  
other application processes running simultaneously with the  
first application process;

35 and

wherein for a number of application processes running  
simultaneously, a control mechanism within the first

application process by exchanging messages with control  
mechanism with the other application process, control  
accesses, required for loading the data to be persistently  
stored, of individual application processes running  
5 simultaneously, to the buffer using process identification  
numbers, entered in a shared memory, of the application  
processes running simultaneously.